Alan LeBovidge, Commissioner Gerard D. Perry, Acting Deputy Commissioner



Bulletin

2003-22B

REVISED FORM OF LIST

TO: Boards of Assessors

FROM: Gerard D. Perry, Acting Deputy Commissioner

Division of Local Services

DATE: December 2003

SUBJECT: Revised Form of List

This *Bulletin* provides you with a revised personal property return approved by the Commissioner of Revenue under G.L. Ch. 58 §3. The return, State Tax Form 2, has been revised to address the local tax status of personal property owned by certain limited liability companies (LLC's) that elect to be treated as disregarded entities for federal tax purposes. As a result of a recent change in the definition of corporation for state tax purposes, a LLC entity that elects to be treated as a disregarded entity and has a S corporation as its sole member is now treated as a corporation. G.L. Ch. 63 §30, as amended by Ch. 26 §204 of the acts of 2003. If possible, the revised form should be provided to property owners for use in filing returns as of January 1, 2004. If assessors have already obtained or prepared a supply of the current form, that form may be provided to property owners instead, but a notice about the change should be attached. Use of the revised form will be required for returns filed as of January 1, 2005 and later years.

As usual, you may decide with your vendor the paper size and color, as well as the typeset and spacing, for the return. You may also adapt the return for electronic filing. The size and spacing shown in the attached return are a result of our technical limitations and are not intended to prevent you or your vendor from developing a hard copy or computerized format that better suits your needs. In developing your format, the primary consideration should be ease of use by the persons and entities required to file. The only limitation is that you must use the exact content shown in the attachment and present it in the same order.

If you have any questions or comments about the revisions, please contact Gary Blau at 617-626-2400.

The Division of Local Services is responsible for oversight of and assistance to cities and towns in achieving equitable property taxation and efficient fiscal management. The Division regularly publishes IGRs (<u>Informational Guideline Releases</u> detailing legal and administrative procedures) and the <u>Bulletin</u> (announcements and useful information) for local officials and others interested in municipal finance.

DECEMBER 2003 REVISIONS

PROPERTY RETURN

FORM NAME	NUMBER	LAST REVISED	12/2003 REVISIONS
Form of List – Return of Personal Property Subject to Taxation (Filed by Individuals, Partnerships, Associations or Trusts, Corporations and Limited Liability Companies)	State Tax Form 2	August 2000	 Amends section requesting information about federal tax status of a limited liability company (LLC) to request date of federal filing election and if filing as disregarded entity, status of sole member as S corporation. (Section 1C). Explains that a LLC electing to be treated as a disregarded entity and having a S corporation as its sole member is treated as a corporation for purposes of taxing tangible personal property. (Section 3).

State Tax Form 2	The Commonwealth of Massachusetts	Assessors' Use only
Revised 12/2003		
	Name of City or Town	Date Received

FISCAL YEAR _____ -- FORM OF LIST Return of personal property subject to taxation General Laws Chapter 59 §29

TO BE FILED BY ALL INDIVIDUALS, PARTNERSHIPS, ASSOCIATIONS OR TRUSTS, CORPORATIONS and LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES SUBJECT TO TAXATION IN THIS CITY OR TOWN PERSONAL PROPERTY SCHEDULES NOT OPEN TO PUBLIC INSPECTION (See General Laws Chapter 59 §32)

(See General Laws Chapter 37 832)								
Return	to: Board of Assessors							
Form must be	filed by March 1 unless an							
extension is g	ranted by the board of assessors.							
	·							
1. TAXPAYER INFORMATION. Complete all sections that apply. Please type or print.								
A. Name of taxpayer:	B. Assessors' use only							
(1) Owner's name:								
(2) Business name:								
C. Indicate status:								
☐ Individual.								
Partnership. Indicate names of all partners:	Partnership. Indicate names of all partners:							
Association or Trust. Indicate names of all trustees:								
Corporation.								
Check here if classified as a manufacturing corporation by Commissioner of Revenue. (To be classified as a manufacturing corporation, an application must be made to the Commissioner on or before January 31 on form 355Q. G.L. Ch. 63, §§38C & 42B; Ch. 58 §2; Ch. 59 §5(16)(5) and 830 C.M.R. 58.2.1)								
if a mutual insurance holding company (G.L. Ch. 175 §§19F-19W and Ch. 63 §§3	0, 32 & 39)							
if an insurance company incorporated in a state other than Massachuset								
if a financial institution (G.L. Ch. 63 §§1 & 2)								
if a utility corporation (G.L. Ch. 63 §52A)								
Limited Liability Company.								
Files federal taxes as corporation partnership disregarded entity other en Effective date of election to file as such entity: Attach copy of								
Indicate names of all members:								
If LLC electing to be treated federally as disregarded entity, is sole member an S corporation? Yes No								
Executor/administrator. Indicate estate of:								
Decedent's last residence:								
Other. Specify:								
D. Nature of business or profession: E. State of incorporation:	F. Date of incorporation:							
G. Business address								
(1) Address:								
(2) Mailing address (if different):								
(3) Telephone number: ()								
H. Location(s) of personal property:								

2. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. WHO MUST FILE A RETURN. This Form of List (State Tax Form 2) must be filed each year by all individuals, partnerships, associations, trusts, corporations, limited liability companies and other legal entities that own or hold taxable personal property on January 1, except owners of pipelines and telephone and telegraph companies that are required to file a personal property return with the Massachusetts Department of Revenue under G.L. Ch. 59 §538A or 41. Individuals owning or holding household furnishings and effects not located at their domicile on January 1 must also file State Tax Form 2HF. Literary, temperance, benevolent, charitable or scientific organizations that may be entitled to an exemption under G.L. Ch. 59 §5 Clause 3 must file State Tax Form 3ABC listing all property they own or hold for those purposes on January 1.
- B. WHEN AND WHERE RETURN MUST BE FILED. Returns must be filed by March 1 with the board of assessors in the city or town where the personal property is situated on January 1. If the property has no situs on January 1, it must be listed on a return filed with the assessors in the city or town where you are domiciled (legal residence or place of business). A return is not considered filed unless it is complete.
- C. EXTENSION OF FILING DEADLINE. The board of assessors may extend the filing deadline if you can show sufficient reason for not filing on time. The latest date the filing deadline can be extended is 30 days after the tax bills are mailed for the fiscal year. Requests for an extension must be made in writing to the assessors.
- D. PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO FILE OR FILING LATE. If you do not file a return for the fiscal year, the assessors cannot grant an abatement for overvaluation of the personal property for that year. If the return is not filed on time, the assessors can only grant an abatement if you show a reasonable excuse for the late filing or the tax assessed is more than 150% of the amount that would have been assessed if the return had been timely filed. In that case, only the amount over that percentage can be abated. You can avoid this penalty by filing on time.
- E. USE OF AND ACCESS TO RETURN. The information in the return is used by the board of assessors to determine the taxable or exempt status of your personal property and, if taxable, its fair market value. You may also be required to provide the assessors with further information about the property in writing and asked to permit them to inspect it. Personal property information listed in Schedules A-I is not available to the public for inspection under the state public records law. It is available only to the assessors and Massachusetts Department of Revenue for purpose of administering the tax laws.

3. TAXABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY

In general, all tangible personal property situated in Massachusetts and all tangible personal property owned by Massachusetts domiciliaries is taxable unless expressly exempt. There are many exemptions, which are usually based on (1) ownership, (2) type of property, or (3) use of property. The following chart summarizes the personal property that is taxable and must be listed in the return. If you have any questions about the taxable status of your personal property, please contact your board of assessors

- A. INDIVIDUALS, PARTNERSHIPS, ASSOCIATIONS, TRUSTS, and LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES (LLC) filing federally as partnerships, disregarded entities or other non-corporate entities (except LLCs electing to be treated federally as disregarded entities and having a S corporation as their sole members)
- All tangible personal property requested in the schedules that follow. Individuals are entitled to an exemption for (1) household furniture and effects at the place of their domicile, (2) farm utensils and (3) tools of a mechanic's trade.
- B. MASSACHUSETTS BUSINESS and OUT-OF-STATE BUSINESS CORPORATIONS as defined in G.L. Ch. 63 §30 LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES filing federally as corporations, or electing to be treated federally as disregarded entities and having S corporations as their sole members
- Poles, underground conduits, wires and pipes. All "machinery used in the conduct of business" $\underline{\text{except}}$ machines that are:
- to be treated lederally as disregarded entities and having 5 corporations their sole members

 MUTUAL INSURANCE HOLDING COMPANIES
- (1) stock in trade,
- MASSACHUSETTS and OUT-OF-STATE MANUFACTURING
- (2) used directly in dry cleaning or laundering processes, to refrigerate goods or to air condition premises, or(3) used directly in purchasing, selling, accounting or administrative functions.
- CORPORATIONS and LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES filing federally as corporations, or electing to be treated federally as disregarded entities and having S corporations as their sole members, that have been classified as "manufacturing" by the Department of Revenue
- Poles, underground conduits, wires and pipes. All tangible personal property used in the manufacture or generation of electricity except property that:
- D. ALL OTHER MASSACHUSETTS CORPORATIONS and LLCs subject to taxation under G.L. Ch. 63, including financial institutions, insurance companies, savings and cooperative banks and utility corporations AND
- (1) is a cogeneration facility of 30 megawatts or less in capacity, or (2) was exempt because of a manufacturing classification effective on or before January 1, 1996.
- ALL OTHER OUT-OF-STATE CORPORATIONS and LLCs subject to taxation under G.L. Ch. 63 §§20, 23, 52A & 58, including utility corporations, public service corporations subject to taxation under G.L. Ch. 63 §58 and insurance companies if state of incorporation (or principal place of business if incorporated in foreign country) exempts similar tangible personal property of Massachusetts insurance companies. See Acts of 1941, Ch. 467.
- Poles, underground conduits, wires and pipes. Machinery used in manufacture, or in supplying or distributing water.

E. ALL OTHER OUT-OF-STATE INSURANCE COMPANIES

All tangible personal property requested in the schedules that follow.

4. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING SCHEDULES

List all items of taxable personal property owned or held on January 1 in the appropriate schedules that follow, including items in your physical possession on that date under a lease, consignment, license, mortgage, pledge or other arrangement. You must also list all real property owned in the city or town on January 1. For your return to be considered complete, all information specified in the schedules <u>except</u> the "Estimated Market Value" must be provided <u>and</u> all copies of leases, consignments, etc., for any property in your possession under such arrangements must be attached.

- A. POLES, UNDERGROUND CONDUITS, WIRES AND PIPES.
- B. MACHINERY. Including manufacturing and generating machinery and equipment (turbines, engines, etc.), construction machinery, copying and reproduction equipment, automated data and word processing equipment, appliances (freezers, refrigerators, air conditioners, etc.), electronics (televisions, microwaves, etc.) and any other machines and mechanical devices.
- C. TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT. Includes trade, business, or professional tools and equipment, including restaurant, laboratory and medical equipment, not listed as machinery.
- D. BUSINESS FURNITURE AND FIXTURES. Includes business, professional, commercial or service fittings and furnishings (desks, tables, cabinets, display cases), rugs, floor coverings and draperies, lamps, specialized lease-hold improvements (restaurant fittings, modular walls, etc.), works of art and decorations, books and professional libraries and all other fittings and effects.
- E. MERCHANDISE. Includes goods, wares, or any stock in trade in any store or other place of sale, in any warehouse or other place of storage, out on lease or consignment,
- F. UNREGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAILERS. Includes motor vehicles not carrying Massachusetts registration plates under G.L. Ch. 90, unregistered agricultural (except those subject to the farm excise under G.L. Ch. 59 §8A) and industrial tractors, trailers, snowmobiles, motorized golf carts and all other kinds and type of unregistered vehicles.
- G. ANIMALS. Includes: (1) mules and horses one year or older, (2) neat cattle (cows, yearlings, bulls, steers, heifers, etc.) one to three years old and not held for the owner's personal consumption, (3) neat cattle three years or older, (4) swine, sheep and goats six months or older, (5) domestic fowl (chickens, ducks, geese, turkey), and (6) all other domestic animals, wildlife and gamefish (mink, fox, etc.) not subject to the farm excise under G.L. Ch. 59 §8A.
- H. FOREST PRODUCTS. Includes forest products severed from the soil such as cordwood, timber, Christmas trees and other forest products not subject to the classified forest products tax under G.L. Ch. 61.
- I. OTHER TAXABLE PERSONAL PROPERTY. Includes all other tangible personal property not specifically exempt from taxation.
- $\label{eq:J.REAL PROPERTY.} Includes all \ real \ property \ owned \ in \ the \ city \ or \ town \ on \ January \ 1.$

Own/Other	Type	Quantity/Rur	n feet	Size	:S Make	Nature of	Years	Year of	Purchase	Estimated
	Турс	Quantity/rtur	ricci	Oizo	Wake	use	installed	purchase	price	market valu
Continue list o	n attachr	ment, in same f	ormat, a	as necessar	y.		Subtot	al Schedule A		
							Subtot	al attachment		
							TOTA	_		
ACHINERY										
*Own/Other	No.	No. Description Nature of			Manufacturer Model		Year of	Purchase	Estimated	
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Continue list o	n attachr	ment, in same f	ormat, a	as necessar	y.		Subtot	al Schedule B		
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							TOTA	_		
OOLS AND EC	UIPMEN	NT								
*Own/Other	No.	Description			Nature of	Type/m	odel	Year of	Purchase	Estimated
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								al attachment		
							TOTA	_		
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*Own/Other	No.	Description						Year of	Purchase	Estimated
		<u> </u>						purchase	price	market valu
Continue list o	n attachr	ment, in same f	ormat, a	as necessar	ry.		Subtot	al Schedule D		
Continue list o	n attachr	ment, in same fo	ormat, a	as necessar	ry.		Subtot	al attachment		
Continue list o	n attachr	ment, in same f	ormat, a	as necessar	y.			al attachment		
		ment, in same f	ormat, a	as necessar	Ty.		Subtot	al attachment		
ERCHANDISE		ment, in same f	ormat, a	as necessar		n	Subtot	al attachment	Purchase	Estimated
		ment, in same f	ormat, a	as necessar	Description	n	Subtot	al attachment	Purchase	Estimated market value
ERCHANDISE	Туре	ment, in same for		as necessar		n	Subtot	al attachment		
ERCHANDISE	Type Finishe			as necessar		n	Subtot	al attachment		
ERCHANDISE	Type Finishe Work i	ed goods or pro		as necessar		n	Subtot	al attachment		
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^{*}Specify if property owned, leased, consigned, etc. and attach copies of lease or other agreement with owner.

G.	ANIMALS								
	Own/Other	No.	Kind	Age		Purchase price	Estimated market value		
	Continue list	on attachm	nent, in same format, as necessary.	Subto	tal Schedule G				
	Continue list	on attacim	ient, in same format, as necessary.	Subto					
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	F0DF0T DD0	DUIGTO							
H.	*Own/Other	No.	Description			Estimated ma	rkot valuo		
	OWITOTILET	INO.	Description	Oli					
	Continue list	on attachm	nent, in same format, as necessary.	Subto	tal Schedule H				
				Subto	tal attachment				
				TOTA	L				
I. (OTHER TAXAB	LE PERSO	ONAL PROPERTY						
	*Own/Other	No.	Description		Year of purchase	Purchase price	Estimated market value		
	Continue list	on attachm	nent, in same format, as necessary.		Subtotal Schedule I				
				TOTA	tal attachment				
				IOIA	L				
J.	REAL PROPER	RTY			T				
	Address				Use: residence	ce or business			
	Continue list	on attachm	nent, in same format, as necessary.		<u>. I</u>				
5.	SIGNATUR	ES							
A.	DESIGNAT matter associate disclosed.	ION OF ted with th	REPRESENTATIVE. If it is your desired is list, indicate the name and address of the p	e to be represented by an er verson you have authorized	nployee, attorne and to whom th	y or accountant v e contents of this	with respect to any list may be		
Na	me of perso	n author	rized						
	_)			
	SIGNATUR this list on Janu	RE OF TA	AXPAYER. This list, prepared or examined ept household and effects if a non-domiciliary sare true, correct and complete.	d by me, includes all taxabl	e personal prope				
Su	bscribed this	s	day of		, , und	ler the penalt	ies of perjury.		
C	•		n full name of individual, partnership, associ			company.			
If o	other than ar	_	ual, signature of authorized officer-	•	-				
			, 0	Title					

Telephone

Address

(Print or type) Name